SENATE BILL 2757

By Jackson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39 and Title 40, relative to sentencing for first degree murder.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-13-204(i), is amended by adding the following as new, appropriately designated subdivisions:

- (16) The victim was intentionally killed because of his or her race, color, religion, nationality, or country of origin;
- (17) The defendant purposely discharged a firearm from a vehicle at a person or at a vehicle, conveyance, or a residential or commercial structure capable of being occupied that the defendant knew or had good reason to believe to be occupied by a person and thereby caused the death of another person under circumstances manifesting extreme indifference to the value of human life;
- (18) The murder was committed against a witness, potential witness, or a family member of a witness in a criminal or civil proceeding in order to prevent the witness or potential witness from appearing at the proceeding, or was committed against a witness or family member of a witness as an act of revenge. For purposes of this subdivision, "family member" means a witness' or potential witness' spouse, natural parent, child, stepchild, adopted child, grandparent, grandchild, stepparent, adoptive parent, brother or sister of the whole or half-blood or by adoption, aunt, uncle, first cousin, father-in-law, mother-in-law, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, niece, or nephew;

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010, the public welfare requiring it.